

Want to Go Deeper With God? This Is the Step Most Believers Avoid

For many Christians, the birth of Jesus is familiar territory. A manger, a stable, shepherds under a star-filled sky. But Messianic Rabbi Jason Sobel says when the story is viewed through its original Jewish context, it becomes far more intentional, prophetic and breathtaking than most realize.

Appearing on The 700 Club, Sobel explained that Jesus was not born in a wooden barn at all. "He wasn't born in a barn," Sobel said. "He was actually born in a cave."

That single detail, he explained, changes everything.

According to Sobel, the location of Jesus' birth was no accident, nor was the identity of the shepherds who first received the angelic announcement. "These weren't ordinary shepherds," he said. "They were priestly shepherds. They were raising the Passover lambs for the Temple in Jerusalem."

Those lambs, Sobel noted, were born and cared for in caves surrounding Bethlehem. "Those lambs were brought into the caves around Bethlehem when they were born," he said. "So they see Him born in the same place that the Passover lambs were born."



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Even the sign given to the shepherds carried a meaning they would instantly recognize. "Behold, you'll see a baby lying in swaddling cloth, lying in a manger," Sobel quoted, asking why such a specific sign mattered. "Why were those signs of any

signs that could have been given?" he said.

Sobel believes the answer lies in priestly practice. "I believe He was swaddled in not ordinary garments but in priestly garments," he said, noting that sacrificial lambs were wrapped carefully at birth to prevent blemish.

What makes the account even more striking, Sobel said, is how Jesus' birth quietly points forward to His death. "His birth in a stone cave and put in a stone manger points to His burial in a cave," he said. "And His being wrapped in swaddling cloth at His birth points to the linen cloth that He's buried in as well."

To Sobel, the parallel is impossible to dismiss. "So His birth and His burial are connected," he said. "He is the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world."

Sobel, author of *Transformed by the Messiah* and a consultant for *The Chosen*, said this kind of detail reveals a depth to Scripture that feels anything but random. "The beginning and the end are all connected," he said, a reminder that the Christmas story, when fully understood, carries far more weight than sentiment alone.

Far from diminishing the wonder of Jesus' birth, Sobel said these connections make it even more astonishing. A Messiah born not just humbly, but prophetically. His mission was woven into stone, cloth and location from the very first moment.

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at *Charisma Media*, combines faith and storytelling with a background in journalism from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of *The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man's Commentary* and a contributor to *Charisma magazine*.

End-Times Update: Turkey, the Temple Mount and Why These Developments Are Raising Prophetic Alarms

Across politics, culture and media, once-unthinkable ideas are now treated as normal, while basic truths are openly disputed. What many dismiss as simple chaos or confusion may point to something deeper: a society losing its grip on reality itself.

Pastor Tom Hughes addresses this collapse in clarity on The Tom Hughes Report, arguing that the cultural madness on display is not random. He describes it as both a spiritual condition and a prophetic indicator of where the world is headed. "There's a good chance... you're going to find yourself saying, 'That's crazy,'" Hughes says, calling it "an excellent definition of the times that we live in."

The Pattern Behind the Chaos

Hughes points to Soviet defector Yuri Bezmenov, who outlined a strategy for overthrowing societies:

- "Number one is you demoralize the people."
- "Number two, you destabilize."
- "You create a crisis."
- "And then you normalize."

Demoralization, Hughes explains, happens when "facts don't matter." In that condition, "the masses of people can no

longer tell fact from fiction,” making them “easily manipulated.” He warns, “The demoralization process appears to be complete.”



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When Truth Is Abandoned

“When truth is abandoned, the vacuum is filled with madness,” Hughes says. He cites Hannah Arendt, who wrote, “The ideal subject of totalitarian rule is... people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction no longer exists.”

Hughes points to institutional confusion as evidence. Asked to define a woman, a Supreme Court nominee replied, “I’m not a biologist.” Hughes responds, “How can you act on behalf of women if you don’t know what a woman is?”

Self-Destruction Disguised as Freedom

Hughes warns that rejecting truth leads inward. “People are literally destroying themselves in following their pride, their greed, their lust.” What is marketed as freedom, he says, produces bondage. “The ultimate expression of rebellion is... self-destruction in the name of liberation.”

A Debased Mind

Quoting Romans 1, Hughes notes, “God gave them over to a debased mind.” He explains that such a mind “reverses the importance of everything,” leaving a culture where “evil seems good and good evil.”

He points to modern examples:

- “For millions today, Hitler’s become a hero.”
- “Homosexual and transgender people publicly taking a

stand for Hamas.”

- “Glamour magazine... awarded their women of the year award to nine men who dress like women.”

“I think we’ve passed crazy,” Hughes says. “I think this world is going mad.”

Where Hope Remains

Hughes wraps up his report by reminding believers where clarity is found. “God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of sound mind.” Even as confusion deepens, he says, “Darkness may rise, but it can never overwhelm the light of Christ.”

“The world may exchange truth for lies,” Hughes adds, “but we hold on to the one who is truth.”

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From Eden to Revelation: Tracing Satan’s Strategy Through Scripture

Pastor Jack Hibbs is not joining the growing chorus declaring

that America is experiencing a sweeping spiritual revival. Instead, he is urging believers to look carefully, biblically and historically, at what is actually unfolding across the nation. What he sees, he says plainly, is not revival, but something far more serious.

“There’s a lot of talk,” Hibbs said, explaining that he has been “very, very hesitant to throw my hat into the ring on all of the rhetoric and all of the talk about the great revival that’s taking place in America.”

While many celebrate what they call a great awakening, Hibbs says one trend is undeniable and deeply concerning. “There’s one thing I am not doubting, and that is the rise of Islam in America like never before.”

That statement alone reframes the moment. This is not a season for spiritual complacency or naive optimism. It is a time that demands discernment.

‘Add the Word Invasion’

Hibbs does not mince words when describing what he believes is happening.

“You want to talk about an awakening or a revival, I think you ought to add the word invasion,” he said.

He warned that Islam has “found a home among progressive left people” and, in what he called a stunning contradiction, “remarkably, ironically, among the gay community,” a partnership he said “is not going to turn out well for them.”

History, Hibbs suggests, has already written this story. The problem is that few are willing to read it.

Political Capitulation and Cultural Testing

According to Hibbs, what follows acceptance is always testing.

“Wherever Islam is on the rise, it will push the envelope to test the culture that it lives in,” he said. “They will push and push and push and see if anybody reacts. And if they don’t react, then they simply take over.”

Blocked streets, halted traffic and public demonstrations are not random acts, Hibbs said, but calculated measures to see whether a society will resist or submit. These incidents, he noted, are no longer hypothetical. They are already happening in parts of the United States.

This pattern is not accidental, and it is not new.



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Beyond Traditional Strongholds

Hibbs emphasized that the expansion is no longer confined to cities long associated with Islamic populations.

“Not just Dearborn, Michigan, not in areas that have always had this Islamic presence,” he said, pointing to Minneapolis, Texas, Arizona and other regions.

Even more troubling, Hibbs warned, is the willingness of local governments to yield ground. “City councils are capitulating to the demands of even hosting or allowing Muslims to hold Sharia courts, which supersede the U.S. Constitution and our American jurisprudence,” he said.

“They have a law above our law.”

That statement alone should sober anyone who values constitutional freedom.

'Not If, But When'

Hibbs placed his warning squarely in a post-9/11 reality.

"Is there an invasion of Islam taking place in a post-9/11 world? Absolutely," he said. "Are they on the move? Yes. Could it turn militant? I think it's not if, I think it's when."

He cautioned that America is entering unfamiliar territory. "Living in America will not always be comfortable as we've known it in the past," Hibbs said. "It's not always going to be easy to be a believer as we've known it in the past."

"I think we're in a new America," he added, "and I think it's going to be something that will be quite shocking."

For Christians who understand biblical prophecy, this should not come as a surprise.

'Make Sure You've Got the Right One'

Hibbs ended his message where every true warning must end, with Jesus Christ.

"Jesus Christ is the answer," he said. "The Jesus Christ of the Bible is the answer. The Jesus Christ who is the Son of God is the answer."

He made a direct and necessary distinction. "Contrary to Islam, Jesus died on the cross and rose again from the dead," Hibbs said. "That's the Jesus Christ that you should be following. Make sure that you've got the right one."

A Need for Discernment

Hibbs' words are not meant to inspire fear, but clarity. Scripture repeatedly warns that deception will increase as the last days draw near. This moment demands discernment, not denial. It demands believers who are grounded in the Word, committed to prayer and unafraid to speak truth.

Now is the time to stay awake, stay faithful and move forward boldly, fulfilling the Great Commission in whatever way the Lord has gifted each believer. The days are serious, the stakes are eternal and the answer remains the same. Jesus Christ is Lord.

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